



**MUSIC TEACHER** Jim Buchholz (above left) pitched most of the sixth grade-teacher game last Wednesday. Sierra Lohofener (middle) cheered the teachers on as Tyler Bruggeman (right) took off running from third.



**AS THE BALL** rolled closer, Cassidy Shields took a running start to get a good kick to help get a few of her fellow classmates home during the annual kick-ball game at the grade school last week.



**TEACHER CAROL WASSON** (above) took her turn pitching the ball. Kade Brown (right) caught the red kick ball as teacher Cindy Sattler passed first base.

## Teachers win kick ball game

“T-E-A-C-H-E-R-S!”  
 “What’s that spell?” shouted the youngsters sitting on the north bank of the grade school playground. “Teachers! Go Teachers!”

It was time for the annual sixth grade vs. teachers kick ball game on the playground at Oberlin Elementary School last Wednesday.

The game is like baseball. Each kicker gets three strikes. After a successful kick, you run to first base, hoping to get there before the ball does. After three outs, the team goes to the outfield and the other team comes up to kick.

Teams score when someone crosses home plate ahead of the tag. Students in kindergarten through fifth grade sat on the north and east

banks in the very far corner of the playground, cheering on the teams. Some had signs, others chanted, while many just clapped and cheered.

When the teachers were up to kick, the students cheered for them, and when the sixth graders were up, they cheered for them.

Teachers and sixth graders seemed to egg the crowd on, getting more cries and yells for their teams, especially when they were switching from outfield to the kicking position.

Principal Duane Dorshorst said the teachers won 14-11. The teachers win more often than they lose, he said, but the adults have lost two times in the 10 years he has been

with the Oberlin School District. Mr. Dorshorst said the teachers lost last year and the second year he was principal.

The kick-ball tradition started before he came, the principal said. The younger kids start looking forward to the game early in their elementary career, he said, adding that the game is part of the sixth graders’ transition on to junior high.

One year before he came, he said, the teams had to play volleyball inside because it was raining. Other than that, he said, the teams have always met on the kick-ball field.

The game was mainly uneventful, but teachers and students collided twice, landing both players in the dirt. Everyone came up laughing.



**Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis**